

Harriers ENews – November 17, 2011

Please forward this edition of the Greater Springfield Harriers ENews to your fellow club members as there are several items of importance. Beginning with:

First Annual USATF New England Awards Banquet

The club has purchased a table for ten at the 1st Annual USATF New England Awards Banquet which will be held this coming Saturday, November 19, 2011, at the Montvale Plaza, 54 Montvale Avenue, Stoneham, MA. Cocktail reception from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm, followed by dinner, awards and special guest Q & A from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, with dancing from 9:00 pm to 10:30 pm. If you are interested in attending please contact Peter Stasz at (w) 568-3148 ext. 11 or (h) 532-1511. The New England Association has talked about such an event for the past several years. Now a reality, it will be an interesting evening and a chance to socialize with your fellow competitors from other New England Clubs. No walk up registration and reservations are closed.

Voting Now Open to Select 2012 Grand Prix

Voting is now open to select the slate of races for the USATF New England Road Race Championships for 2012. Only current USATF New England registered members are eligible to vote. Go to the Association web site at usatfne.org for instructions on how to cast your ballot. Your club president advises that you vote for Slate A which is the only slate to include the Lincoln RI 5K, one of the best racing deals around including a great feed post race, low entry fees with a t-shirt, good cash prizes for individuals and teams plus it's only about an hour away. Plus Kevin Johnson and David Johnson were 1st and 2nd (USATF-NE) last year. That slate also includes the Amherst 10 miler, New Bedford Half Marathon, Bedford Rotary 12K, Cape Cod Marathon and the Carver Cranberry 5 mile race which Kevin Johnson also won last year (in fact all three of the slates include these five races). Slate A also includes the James Joyce Ramble 10K, another quality race. Voting closes Tuesday, November 22nd.

USATF National Club Cross Country Championships Saturday, December 10, 2011, Seattle, WA.

Once again the Harriers will be supporting our teams at this annual event which is returning to the West Coast for the first time in several years. We have an exceptionally strong men's masters (over 40) team in super secret training for this event. Anyone interested should contact Fast Feet or Pete Stasz at the above phone numbers. The Harriers will reimburse reasonable airfare and pay for the entry fee. Please note that the entry fee skyrockets after December 2nd so please let us know before then if you are interested. For more detailed information check out the USATF web site at www.usatf.org.

Boston Marathon Entries

The Harriers have again been granted special Boston Marathon entries, eight this year, which can be used for either qualified runners who have missed the entry deadline (already passed!) or those club members who do not meet the qualifying time standards. We award these numbers according to which club members helped the club the most during the past year either through volunteering at races or competing for the team. Please contact Fast Feet if you are

interested. Note the entry fee for these special entries is \$300 this year and the entry deadline for these entries is January 13, 2012.

32nd Annual Snowstorm Classics Begin, Saturday, December 3rd

Season #32 begins in just a few weeks, and flyers will be available in just a few days.

Check out this year's themes on our web site and help us spread the word about these races, one of our most successful endeavors. We've never cancelled so you can be assured that if you can get to Forest Park, there will be a race. Again club members who break an age record will receive a fifty dollar gift certificate to Fast Feet. New this year is a Fast Feet gift certificate to a random Harrier finisher in each race. Other prizes include Springfield Symphony tickets, Majestic Theater tickets, and refreshments galore. All for only four dollars!

As always check our web site at www.harriers.org or call Fast Feet (231 Elm Street in West Springfield, phone 734-0955 or 24 Elm Street in Westfield, phone 485-0058).